

AUSTRALIAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ALLIANCE
Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel



Expression of Intent EOI/26/001
AusAlert Device Behaviour

AS/CA S042.1:2025 – Requirements for connection
to an air interface of a Telecommunications Network — Part 1: General

The Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel (CECRP) established a Publication Advisory Group (PAG) in 2004. The purpose of the PAG is to provide the opinion of experienced members of the Australian Telecommunications Alliance (ATA) technical bodies to queries of the intent of specific requirements in published Standards and guidelines for which the CECRP is responsible.

The following notes are to be read in conjunction with the attached Expression of Intent (Eoi):

1. The PAG consists of active members of the CECRP, but its opinions are those of the PAG and are not voted decisions of any ATA Working Committees.
2. When it is felt that a query arose due to a possible lack of clarity in a Standard or guideline, the matter is brought to the attention of the CECRP to be considered for future work. However, this will not necessarily lead to any future amendment of the Standard or guideline.
3. The PAG is restricted to expressing the intent of the words of the publication in question, as the members of the PAG either recollect the original intentions of the Working Committee that developed the Standard or guideline, or is based on the opinions of nominated advisors within the telecommunications industry. The Eoi is not an interpretation of the requirements of the publication.
4. The Eoi has no regulatory or legal status and represents only the PAG's view of the intent or likely intent underlying the relevant publication. Eois are issued to explain and clarify the intent or likely intent of the Standard or guideline and do not constitute an alteration to the original Standard or guideline or provide new requirements. The PAG cannot make new rules to fit situations not yet covered in the Standard or guideline. Changes to the Standard or guideline are made only through revisions or amendments to that publication.
5. The PAG does not provide a consultancy service where organisations are in disagreement on whether a specific design or configuration meets the requirements of a particular Standard.
6. The Eoi does not constitute legal advice. Any reliance upon or use made of the published Eoi by the query submitter, or any other person, is solely at their own risk. The ATA does not warrant that compliance with any Eoi constitutes compliance with the relevant publication.

Inquiries related to Standards or guidelines that have been developed under the CECRP are welcome. Such inquiries are to be forwarded through the ATA to the secretary of the PAG. Responses are sent to the query submitter by the secretary and are circulated to members of the CECRP, PAG, and other technical advisors involved in the development of the response. Eois are published on the ATA website at <https://www.austelco.org.au/>.



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With respect to the query, please note that the CECRP response is restricted to expressing the PAG's view of the intent or likely intent of the words of the Standard concerned. Some queries, therefore, may be more appropriately addressed to the Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA), a test laboratory, or experienced consultant concerned with Customer Equipment design requirements.

Background

The Customer Equipment and Cable Reference Panel (CECRP) received a query regarding the intended behaviour of Customer Equipment when receiving AusAlert messages, specifically in relation to the interaction with user-configured device audio settings, including Silent Mode and Do Not Disturb.

Query

It is understood that the fundamental question concerning AS/CA S042.1:2025 is whether Customer Equipment is intended to override user-configured audio settings when receiving AusAlert messages, and whether this behaviour differs between alert classifications, including Critical Alerts and Priority Alerts.

Response

In response to this query, the CECRP Publication Advisory Group advises that the intent of AS/CA S042.1:2025 is to distinguish between different classes of AusAlert messages, including Critical Alerts and Priority Alerts, with corresponding differences in device behaviour.

The intended behaviour is that Critical Alerts (EU-Alert Level 1) are not suppressible by normal user-configured notification settings, including Silent Mode or Do Not Disturb. Actions taken by a user that prevent the receipt or presentation of alerts, such as powering off the device or placing it in aeroplane mode, are outside the scope of the Standard.

Furthermore, the intended behaviour of Priority Alerts (EU-Alert Level 2) is not to override user-configured notification settings. Where a device is configured to *Silent Mode* or *Do Not Disturb*, the audible alert tone for a Priority Alert is not required to sound.

Customer Equipment implementing AusAlert functionality is therefore expected to maintain the distinction in behaviour between Critical Alerts and Priority Alerts, and to respect user-configured notification settings in the case of Priority Alerts.

Additional Notes

This Expression of Intent clarifies the intended differentiation in behaviour between alert categories within AS/CA S042.1:2025. It does not introduce new requirements and does not alter the provisions of the Standard.